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Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Preparatory Committee
Third session
Sendai, Japan, 13 March 2015

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on its third session, held in Sendai, Japan, on 13 March 2015

Rapporteur: Kateřina **Sequensová** (Czech Republic)

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/211 and the decision of the Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction at its second session, the Preparatory Committee held its third session on 13 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan.

2. The session was opened by the Co-Chair of the Preparatory Committee, Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand).

II. Organizational and other matters

A. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters of the Preparatory Committee

3. At its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted its agenda (A/CONF.224/PC(III)/1), which read:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters of the Preparatory Committee.
2. Draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.
3. Draft political declaration.

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4. Other matters.

5. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its third session.

4. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee elected, by acclamation, the Director General of Disaster Management at the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management of South Sudan, Banak Joshua Dei Wal, as Vice-Chair, to replace the former Permanent Representative of South Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Riek Puok Riek, who had completed his tour of duty.

5. Also at same meeting, the Preparatory Committee was informed that the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Andrey Nikiforov, could no longer perform the duties of Rapporteur of the Preparatory Committee. Accordingly, the Preparatory Committee designated the Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Kateřina Sequensová, as Rapporteur.

6. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee noted that the Deputy Director General for International Cooperation and Global Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Takeshi Osuga, would serve as an ex officio member of the Bureau to replace the Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Misako Kaji, who could no longer perform the duties of ex officio member of the Bureau.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee approved the suggested lists of non-governmental organizations and other major groups and intergovernmental organizations recommended for accreditation and participation, as observers, to the Conference and its preparatory meetings (see A/CONF.224/PC(III)/2 and A/CONF.224/PC(III)/3).

B. Draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction

8. At its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to recommend to the Conference that the negotiations on the draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction be continued in the Main Committee.

9. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee also agreed to the modalities for proceeding with informal discussions on the draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction immediately following the adjournment of the meeting.

C. Draft political declaration

10. At its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to recommend to the Conference that the negotiations on the draft political declaration be continued in the Main Committee.

D. Other matters

Decision adopted by the Preparatory Committee

11. At its 1st meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided:

(a) To revise the provisional agenda of the Conference (A/CONF.224/1) by revising item 4 to read "Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters";

(b) To recommend to the Conference that, at the opening of the Conference, statements also be made by the Prime Minister of the host country, the incoming President of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Mayor of Sendai (see A/CONF.224/2, para. 9);

(c) To recommend to the Conference that its 1st plenary meeting be held from 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. on 14 March 2015 (see ibid., para. 7).

Attendance

12. The provisional list of participants is contained in document A/CONF.224/PC(III)/INF/1.

E. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its third session

13. At its 2nd meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted its draft report, as introduced and updated by the Rapporteur, and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize it in the light of the proceedings of the meeting.

III. Closure of the session

14. Concluding statements were made by the Co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee, Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) and Päivi Kairamo (Finland).

15. The third session of the Preparatory Committee was closed by the Co-Chair, Päivi Kairamo (Finland).

Annex

Documents before the Preparatory Committee at its third session

Document	*Symbol*
Annotated provisional agenda	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/1
Accreditation of non-governmental organizations and other major groups	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/2
Participation of intergovernmental organizations	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/3
Draft decision submitted by the Co-Chairs	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/L.1
Draft report	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/L.2
Provisional list of participants	A/CONF.224/PC(III)/INF/1